

City of Flagstaff

News Release

July 12, 2013

City Manager's Compounds of Emerging Concern Panel to Meet Tuesday

Flagstaff City Manager Kevin Burke's advisory panel of researchers, scientists, engineers and industry professionals will meet again on Tuesday, July 16, 2013 in its efforts to understand and address compounds of emerging concern (CEC) in Flagstaff's water.

The meeting is being held at the Little America Hotel from Noon to 3:00 p.m. and is open to the public. The meeting will be recorded and within a few days placed on the City website for the public that cannot attend the meeting.

The advisory members include representatives from Northern Arizona University, the University of Arizona, Virginia Tech, TGen North, Coconino County Public Health Services District, the Flagstaff Medical Center, the Center for Advanced Microbial Risk Assessment/National Academy of Engineering and other cities in addition to the City of Flagstaff. The panel has already met several times this year in an effort to help the City in determining what to study, identify steps necessary for understanding the health effects of CEC's and guide the City on the development of a work plan on how best to achieve this knowledge.

To date, the Advisory panel has recommended that there are no data at the present time to suggest that the continued use of reclaim water provides undue risk to human health. At the conclusion of Tuesday's meeting the Panel is expected to issue an interim report.

There is extensive interest in studying and learning more about unregulated CEC's which include pharmaceuticals, endocrine disruptors and antibiotic resistant genes, in untreated, treated and reclaimed water.